



# The Ordnance Corps Quarterly

U.S. Army Combined Arms Support Command

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## Chief's Corner

Spring took an unexpected turn! At the beginning of March, the U.S. Army Ordnance School (USAOS) was looking forward to a full slate of commemorative events and ceremonies. Two weeks later, most of them were canceled or postponed in response to

the Coronavirus pandemic. It was disappointing to defer such time-honored events as the EOD Memorial, the Ordnance Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony, and the Ordnance Crucible competitions. However, at this time, our first priority is ensuring the safety of our Soldiers, DA Civilians, Contractors, and Family members!

By mid-March, the USAOS had implemented guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Department of Defense to slow the spread of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19). However, our increased focus on safety did not distract us from our mission. Training Ordnance *professionals* for the operational force and developing Ordnance *solutions* for the future are crucial to Army readiness. Ordnance core competencies (maintenance, ammunition, explosive



**Students eat their mid-day meal in the maintenance bay. This MRE lunch gives the dining facility's personnel time to thoroughly sanitize common areas between breakfast and dinner.**

ordnance disposal, and explosives safety) enable our Army to project (and sustain) the lethal force that wins our Nation's wars. This is the reality that drives us to overcome any obstacle that gets in the way.

Social distancing poses unique challenges in the training environment. Processes and procedures were altered, and cadre, instructors, and trainees adjusted to the new normal. Split shifts reduced the population in the classrooms and training bays. Amended DFAC feeding schedules allowed extra time to sanitize the dining area between meals. Trainees served as barbers during their non-training time. Live-streamed graduation ceremonies allowed Family and friends to 'attend' from home. In all the changes, our cadre and instructors were careful to preserve training *standards* and student *morale*.

USAOS personnel who are not directly involved with the training mission transitioned *en masse* to the unfamiliar world of telework. I was astounded by how quickly they adapted! Being geographically dispersed didn't hinder their ability to collaborate, nor did it slow their progress on Ordnance initiatives that build readiness for the current and future force.

I know that Ordnance professionals in operational units made similar adjustments to continue their mission and protect their people. COVID-19 is an adversary that is unlike any we have experienced. It's silent, invisible, and knows no boundaries. It doesn't



**Social distancing measures protect troops during formation.**

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## Chief's Corner Continued from page 1



An Ordnance Soldier gives a student a haircut.

discriminate between the schoolhouse and field unit. And while *social distancing* became our first line of defense, our sense of *community* became one of our greatest allies. So let's take a tactical pause to appreciate what binds us together as a community.

**A shared past.** As Ordnance professionals, we are bound together by our shared history. We trace our roots back to 1629 when Samuel Sharpe was appointed as the Master Gunner of Ordnance in the Massachusetts Bay Colony, but our official timeline began on May 14, 1812, when Congress established the Ordnance Department. Our culture, customs, and values were shaped by two-centuries of service to our Nation. Ordnance professionals provided munitions to one million Union Army Soldiers during the Civil War, responded to WWI's mechanized warfare with an echeloned-system of maintenance, conducted the first bomb disposal operations after Pearl Harbor was attacked, and served as the sole source of Explosives Safety expertise during the Global War on Terror.

**A shared purpose.** Throughout our long history, there has been one constant, and that is the indomitable spirit of the Ordnance professional. Service to the line, on the line, on time - that's what we are *for*! This shared purpose connects the 90,000+ Ordnance professionals serving today and links us with generations past and future.

**A shared future.** We know where we've *been*, we know what we are *for*, and we know where we are *going*! The nature of war is constantly changing. Our Army relies on Ordnance professionals to sustain lethal power against *any* adversary on *any* battlefield

across *all* domains. Whether we are serving in the schoolhouse or operational units, we share a mandate to develop the next-generation of Ordnance Soldiers. Every student *we* graduate becomes a Soldier in *your* formation. *We* lay the foundation. *You* refine leadership and expertise. Together, we build the trusted Ordnance warfighters our Army needs to fight and win today - and tomorrow.

On May 14, we celebrate the 208th birthday of the U.S. Army Ordnance Corps. I trust that our Ordnance professionals will find creative ways to recognize this important milestone while adhering to the social distancing guidelines for their specific location. If our gatherings are *smaller* this year, let them be *all the more* intentional to celebrate those things that unite us: our shared history, purpose, and future.

This article will be my last as the Chief of Ordnance. For two years, I have used this newsletter to build stronger connections between the USAOS and the Ordnance professionals serving in operational units around the world. I have been transparent about the USAOS mission and our progress on initiatives that impact Total Force readiness. Thank you for engaging with me through the Ordnance Connect, EOD Connect, Ask the Chief, office calls, and visits. I truly appreciated your honest feedback and your willingness to share best practices across the Ordnance community. Keep those lines of communication open and keep doing the great things you do.

It has been a tremendous honor to serve as your 41st Chief of Ordnance. I will relinquish this role on May 18, 2020, but I will continue to be a proud (and engaged) member of this incredible Ordnance community. As I set out on a new adventure as the Commander of the 20th Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosives Command, I assure you, the U.S. Army Ordnance School will be the FIRST organization I turn to for my DOTMLPF needs.

### Go Ordnance!

BG Heidi J. Hoyle  
41st Chief of Ordnance







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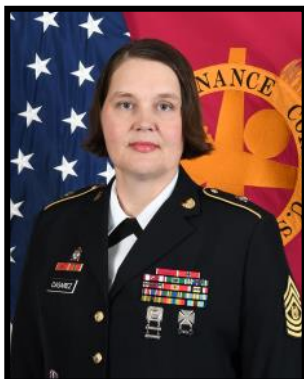
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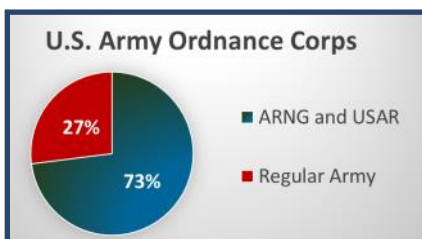
## Ordnance Corps Command Sergeant Major Highlights



### Greetings, Ordnance!

While adhering to COVID-19 guidelines, Ordnance Soldiers are continuing their journey along the **extra mile**. They're doing what they do best, taking care of Soldiers, supporting the mission, and presenting a clear picture of what the Army means by **"One Team, One Fight!"**

Recent news reports highlight excellent examples of Regular Army (RA), Army National Guard (ARNG), and U.S. Army Reserve (USAR) Soldiers doing their part to support Army missions while contributing to local initiatives in response to the pandemic. The saying **"One Team, One Fight"** recognizes the teamwork across Army components (COMPOs) that is essential to Army readiness.



The U.S. Army Ordnance Corps is unique among Army branches because it is primarily composed of ARNG and USAR Soldiers. ARNG and USAR make up 73

percent of the Ordnance Corps, whereas only 27 percent is Regular Army (RA). **One Team, One Fight** is all about Total Force integration, which requires a *Total Force* approach to secure *Total Force* solutions. The One Army School System (OASS) is an essential part of this equation.

The OASS was implemented to ensure that Soldiers, regardless of COMPO, get the same standard and quality of training. The OASS benefits the individual Soldier as well as the Army. Distributing Ordnance training across multiple locations optimizes the Ordnance School's capacity to produce well-trained Soldiers while maximizing resources. The option of training at ARNG and USAR sites decreases wait times for required courses and reduces travel costs when the training site is nearer to home-station. As a bonus, Ordnance Soldiers have an opportunity to work with peers and leaders from other COMPOs, which builds and strengthens Total Force Integration.

As shown on the map, Ordnance training is distributed across 25 locations: 7 Active Army, 13 ARNG, and 5 USAR. The ARNG and USAR sites,



**RTS-Ms are located on active duty installations and at Army National Guard or Army Reserve installations.**

known as Regional Training Sites-Maintenance (RTS-M), offer Noncommissioned Officer Professional Development System Courses like the Advanced Leaders Course (ALC) and the Senior Leaders Course for several military occupational specialties (MOS). They also provide Ordnance MOS qualification training and Additional Skill Identifier courses. Some courses, like the 91D Power-Generation Equipment Repairer ALC, are offered at RTS-Ms only, and not any of the Active Army school locations. Other classes are offered at multiple locations, and Soldiers, regardless of COMPO, are placed in a suitable class based on the Order of Merit List (OML), class availability, and proximity to the Soldier's duty location.

To find detailed information and points of contact for all training locations, please visit the Ordnance Corps [website](#).

The combined effort of all three COMPOs is what makes us Ordnance Strong! **One Team, One Fight, One Army School System!** I appreciate all you do to keep the Army strong with superior maintenance, ammunition management, explosive ordnance disposal, and explosives safety. Armament for Peace!

### Go Ordnance!

CSM Petra Casarez  
14th Ordnance Corps Command Sergeant Major





## Ordnance Corps Chief Warrant Officer Highlights



Preparing your records for an upcoming promotion selection board can be stressful and confusing. Throughout my career, I have reviewed many officer record briefs (ORB) and official photographs. I have seen many great examples as well as some

poor ones. In light of that experience, I offer the following advice to help Ordnance Corps warrant officers avoid some common mistakes and ensure their records accurately reflect their experience and professionalism to the next selection board.

### **Meticulously review your uniform before taking the official photograph.**

Meticulously review your uniform before taking the official photograph. Army Regulation (AR) 640-30, *Official Army Photographs*, states, “The photograph is an important representation of the Soldier.” The official photo, the first and only visual impression of the officer, is visible during promotion boards and within the Assignment Interactive Module marketplace for Active Component officers. At a minimum, officers and noncommissioned officers must update their photos every five years. However, you must also take a new photo if you receive an Army Commendation Medal or higher, a new badge, or a new permanent unit award. Additionally, there is a requirement to update your photo within 60 days of promotion to CW2 and higher. This is one of the most common mistakes that I have seen. On several occasions, I have seen CW3s and CW4s (with 12 to 24 months time-in-grade) with official photographs showing the previous rank. Another common mistake I see are photos that do not accurately match the awards and decorations section of the ORB. For example, AR 600-8-22, *Military Awards*, states Soldiers are authorized only one Army Service Ribbon, yet I have seen warrant officers with two on their ORB.

Although uncommon, I have also seen warrant officers with the U.S. and Ordnance branch insignia reversed or improperly placed on the coat collar and lapels.

### **Meticulously review and maintain your Officer Record Brief.**

Meticulously review and maintain your ORB. Make sure your overseas or deployment information accurately matches your awards, the awards section matches your photograph, and that there are no inaccurate duty titles such as “Known Losses” or “Overstrength.” If you completed Air Assault School, you should have the 2B additional skill identifier on your ORB. Not all overseas deployments receive short tour credit, and therefore do not count as an additional award of the Overseas Service Ribbon. There are 19 rules in AR 614-30, *Overseas Service*, Table 3-2 that prescribe how the Army determines short or long tour credit. As a best practice, you should work with your S-1 section to edit the organizations on your ORB, so they are easy to read by all the board members. For example, rather than “CS BN CO B FIELD MAIN,” the entry could be edited to read, “526 BDE SPT BN, 2/101 ABN” or “526 BSB, 2 IBCT, 101 ABN.” There are several ways to do this successfully, but the number of characters is limited, so you must be precise and concise.

In summary, you have the ability and the responsibility to review your ORB and official photograph prior to the promotion selection board. My advice is to start early and update your file periodically. Pay attention to detail. Keep up with regulations and HQDA-level messages that announce award updates. Finally, seek a senior warrant officer to review your ORB and photograph.

### **Go Ordnance!**

CW5 Danny K. Taylor  
11th Ordnance Corps Chief Warrant Officer



## C-RAM Intercept Land-Based Phalanx Weapon System



### C-RAM INTERCEPT LAND-BASED PHALANX WEAPON SYSTEM

The widely anticipated Counter Rockets, Artillery, and Mortars (C-RAM) Intercept Land-Based Phalanx Weapon System (LPWS) is coming to the U.S. Army Ordnance School (USAOS)! Within the next 12 months, the USAOS will start conducting three new functional courses designed to train LPWS maintainers. Avenger Systems Repairers (94T), Radar Repairers (94M), and Electronic Missile Systems Maintenance Warrant Officers (948D) will receive 12 to 16 weeks of training deemed critical for supporting the Army's transition from Contractor Logistics Support to organic support.

In preparation for the courses, the USAOS is scheduled to receive two LPWSs in the 3rd quarter of fiscal year 2020. A team from the C-RAM Program Office will provide new equipment training to USAOS's primary trainers (instructors and training developers) from August 2020 through February 2021. The first functional classes will be conducted during the 2nd quarter of fiscal year 2021. Access the Army Training Requirements and Resources System portal for class details.

The C-RAM Intercept program evolved from the C-RAM system-of-systems effort. It transitioned to an

acquisition program to provide counter-RAM protection to the Indirect Fire Protection Capability/Avenger battalions to defend against and defeat the enduring indirect fire (IDF) threat. It was initially deployed to Forward Operating Bases in Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Some systems are currently deployed to Afghanistan in support of Operation Freedom's Sentinel.

The primary component for the C-RAM Intercept program is the LPWS, a modified U.S. Navy Phalanx Close-In Weapon System mounted on a commercial semitrailer for land-based operations. The 20mm Gatling gun is capable of on-board target acquisition and fire control. LPWS barrels are optimized for use with self-destruct ammunition to minimize collateral damage. Integrated search and track radars detect and engage a wide range of IDF threats. The C-RAM command and control system integrates the sensors, weapons, and warning systems for C-RAM Intercept.

Mr. Timothy Travis  
Division Chief, Land Combat Training



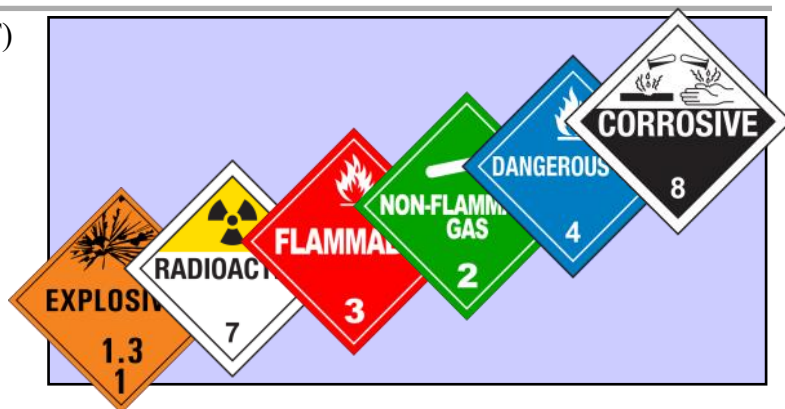
## Inspection of HAZMAT Laden Vehicles

When shipping Hazardous Material (HAZMAT) (i.e., ammunition), drivers must take precautions to mitigate threats to public safety. One of these precautionary steps is to ensure that all transport vehicles are in top mechanical condition. Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations requires vehicles to undergo inspection before transporting HAZMAT on public roads. The Department of Defense implements this requirement with several regulations, such as the Defense Transportation Regulations, DA Pam 385-64 Ammunition and Explosives Safety Standards, and many local laws.

The above regulations require inspectors to use the criteria listed on DD Form 626, Motor Vehicle Inspection. DD Form 626 consists of three sections that the driver and inspector must complete before releasing a HAZMAT laden vehicle.

The first section addresses administrative documentation for the shipment. This section reflects where the inspection occurred and, most importantly, the drivers' HAZMAT qualification information.

The second section lists the required inspection standards for the transport vehicle. The back pages of the form explain the various requirements listed in this section. No HAZMAT may be loaded on the



transport vehicle until all inspection points are met and any discrepancies corrected.

The third section documents the final inspection of the vehicle once the HAZMAT is loaded and secured. When both the driver and inspector are satisfied with the shipment, they will sign the DD Form 626. This section also provides for an inspection to determine the condition of the shipment upon arrival at the destination.

Proper utilization of DD Form 626 supports the safe shipment of HAZMAT, reducing threats to public safety.

Stephen Zdeb  
QASAS, Defense Ammunition Center

## What's New?!

The Ordnance Corps participated in the second annual Army Talent Management Planning Conference at the Mark Center, Alexandria, Virginia, from February 25 to 28. Over 400 participants from 125 organizations across the Total Force participated in breakout sessions to discuss and collaborate on 52 talent management initiatives across the near and mid-term from fiscal year 2020 to 2024.

One near-term initiative our Ordnance officers will be able to participate in at the Captains Career Course, Intermediate-Level Training, or the Battalion Commander Assessment Program is the Army Coaching Program.

This initiative is a non-attributional, Soldier focused, confidential, and career-long program focused on a Soldier's self-development, professional goals, and enhancing leader performance and potential. The coach is a certified



professional who has a formal relationship with the officer to assist in developing and improving the individual's knowledge, skills, and behaviors to achieve their goals.

This initiative supports the Army's People Strategy by developing self-aware Officers who understand their talents and how they can grow and leverage these talents for the Army of the future.

MAJ Thomas N. Shanahan  
Ordnance Proponent Officer





## Transporting Trainees During the Coronavirus Pandemic

In response to the Coronavirus pandemic, several countries around the world instituted restrictions on travel, published shelter in place orders, and implemented additional safety measures to prevent the spread of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19).

The United States Army also adjusted many of its systems and processes to combat the virus. One example is the reception and in-processing of Advanced Individual Training (AIT) students at the U.S. Army Ordnance School (USAOS), and their departure after graduation.

The USAOS must balance the number of incoming and outgoing Soldiers in order to maintain the Ordnance training pipeline. On March 31, 2020, the 59th Ordnance Brigade executed a proof of concept by receiving 386 Soldiers from Basic Combat Training at Fort Jackson, South Carolina. Before departing Fort Jackson, the Soldiers were screened for COVID-19 symptoms prior to movement



**Soldiers maintain social distancing while conducting medical screening procedures. (This photo was taken prior to guidelines that mandated the wear of facemasks.)**

to AIT on sanitized buses. To allow for social distancing, capacity was limited to 22 Soldiers per bus. Upon departing the buses at Fort Lee, temperature checks and medical screenings were conducted.

The implemented safety measures ensured that all Soldiers received during the current COVID-19 environment were safely integrated into AIT. Additionally, during in-processing and Functional Movement Screening, the Brigade implemented social distancing measures to ensure the safety of Soldiers and cadre.

This proof of concept validated a troop movement process that allows the USAOS to keep the training pipeline moving. This is essential to support the mission of generating Ordnance professionals for the Total Force!

MAJ Nathan L. Ray  
Executive Officer, 16th Ordnance Battalion



**Graduates of the U.S. Army Ordnance School prepare to depart Fort Lee, Virginia to travel to their first duty stations. (This photo was taken prior to guidelines that mandated the wear of facemasks.)**





## EOD Communication is Key

The Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) Commandant's Office is formalizing various communication platforms to ensure the widest dissemination of information on topics that impact the EOD community. Multiple venues were established to promote effective communication to and amongst the various sectors within our EOD community.

**EOD Council of Colonels.** The EOD Council of Colonels advises and assists the Chief of Ordnance, Army Capability Manager (ACM)-EOD, and Headquarters Department of the Army (HQDA) G-38 on Doctrine, Organization, Training, Materiel, Leadership, Personnel, Facilities, and Policy (DOTMLPF-P) development activities in support of the Army's EOD force. The Council of Colonels operates under the oversight of the EOD Commandant and includes key leaders from the Army EOD community representing the operating force, generating force, and policy.

**EOD SMART.** The EOD Sergeant Major Round Table (SMART) serves as a principal advisory committee to the EOD Council of Colonels in support of the Chief of Ordnance, ACM-EOD, and HQDA G-38 on DOTMLPF-P development activities regarding the Army's EOD force. EOD SMART operates under the oversight of ACM-EOD and includes key senior enlisted leaders from the Army EOD community.

**EOD Connect.** The EOD Connect is a live quarterly teleconference that informs the EOD community on the latest hot topics and initiatives within the U.S. Army Ordnance School. This interactive session allows participants to share observations, issues, and challenges that impact the operational EOD community.

**EOD Bulletin.** The EOD Commandant will publish the first-ever EOD Bulletin to inform EOD and Army leaders on the EOD Commandant's current initiatives, priorities, and primary topics of interest. Follow-on issues will focus on sharing information regarding all the training domains to include the operational, institutional, and self-development domains as well as policy topics. Leaders from the operational and institutional force can submit articles or short features to the EOD Commandant's office for possible publication. We are developing a website for this publication in conjunction with the Ordnance Corps homepage for this initiative. Our goal is to publish later this month and routinely after that.

The EOD Council of Colonels, EOD SMART, EOD Connect, and the upcoming EOD Bulletin are multiple means of expanding our reach and distributing information across the EOD community.

COL Stephen F. Elder  
EOD Commandant

**OD Connect and EOD Connect are two live quarterly teleconferences that provide an opportunity to share updates, ideas, and concerns that affect daily operations within the Ordnance, EOD, and greater sustainment communities. Stay tuned to the [USAOS Facebook](#) for upcoming topics and connection instructions!**

# OD CONNECT

June 4, 2020  
0930-1130 EST

Connect LIVE  
on [Milsuite!](#)

# LIVE EOD CONNECT



**AUGUST 18, 2020**



## New Education Options for Military Students at RTS-M Kansas



**President of Salina Area Technical College, Mr. Gregory Nichols (left) and Commander of RTS-M Kansas, Major Wesley Topel (right), sign the revised MOU between Salina Tech and the Kansas Army National Guard. (This photo was taken prior to the Coronavirus pandemic.)**

On January 23, 2020 Mr. Gregory Nichols, President of Salina Area Technical College and Major Wesley Topel, the Commander of the Regional Training Site – Maintenance (RTS-M) Kansas, signed a revised memorandum of understanding for the Synchronous Training and Academic Credit (STAC) program. This revision added two courses to the program, which were previously only available to students of the 91E10/30 Allied Trades courses. Effective February 2020, students of the 91C10 Utilities Equipment Repairer and 91J30 Quartermaster and Chemical Equipment Repairer Advanced Leader Courses are eligible to receive college credit for training completed during their time at the RTS-M, as well as previously completed training.

The STAC program began as a joint effort to allow students to gain recognition from the civilian sector for their knowledge gained through military experience and training. Sometimes, the skills and certifications obtained through military training are not transferable to the civilian sector. Through this partnership with Salina Area Technical College, training and certifications are equal, if not superior, to the education

students would receive from civilian trade schools.

Nineteen students have taken advantage of STAC, since 2017. Two have graduated with their Associates of Applied Science degree. While participants receive a significant number of college credits for completing the course at RTS-M Kansas, there are additional online classes that must be completed at home station. Completing the program requires the same dedication and perseverance that traditional higher education calls for. Students must have the self-discipline to complete the work to the high standard set by both RTS-M Kansas and Salina Area Technical College.

This program allows Soldiers and students to enhance their professional standing and expertise, keep pace with their civilian counterparts, and become stronger assets for the military now and for civilian employers in the future.

SFC Tracy Marble  
RTS-M Kansas Public Affairs Office





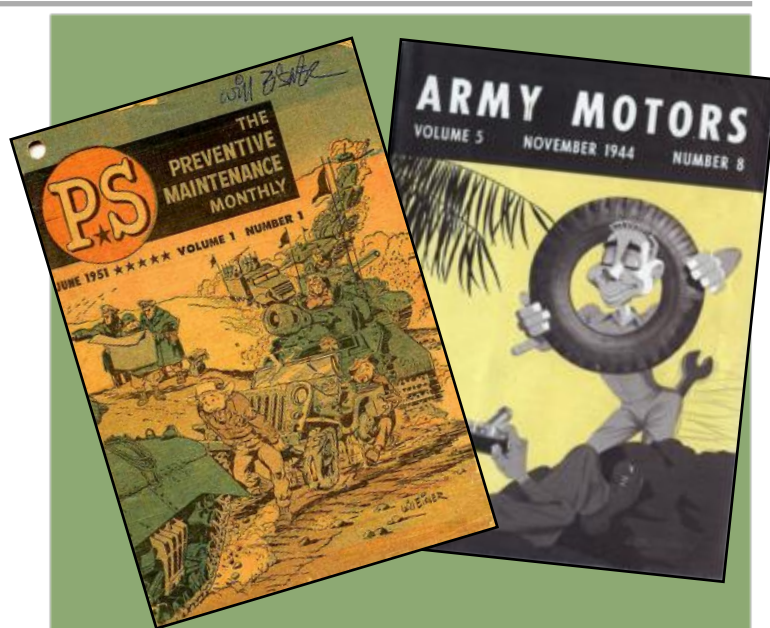
## Enduring Effects of WWII

World War II left an indelible mark on the U.S. Army Ordnance Corps. The operational environment of WWII presented new challenges to the U.S. Army and what was then known as the Ordnance Department. Two new adaptations became enduring facets of the Ordnance profession: Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) and the Preventive Maintenance System.

With the bombing of Pearl Harbor in 1941, the Army needed increased capability to address a wide range of unexploded munitions. The Ordnance Department took on the mission due to its expertise in ammunition production and handling. In January of 1942, a bomb-disposal school was established at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland, under the guidance of LTC Thomas Kane, the 'father' of Army EOD. Initially, the department formed eight bomb disposal companies, and each was authorized 173 personnel. However, by early 1943, the structure was reorganized around seven-man bomb disposal squads. By the end of the war, the Ordnance Department had activated 219 bomb disposal squads. These squads served in every theater during the war and were among the first troops in combat. In 1949, the bomb disposal capability was renamed Explosive Ordnance Disposal to better reflect the wide array of unexploded munitions handled.



**The 16th Ordnance Department Bomb Disposal Squad including CPT Marshall T. Crow, Technical Sergeant William J. Henry, SSG Royal A. Boyd, Jr., SGT Edward L. Moulton, Technician 5th Grade Henry W. Heffner, Onesime C. Lagasse, and Johnnie L. Segraves.**



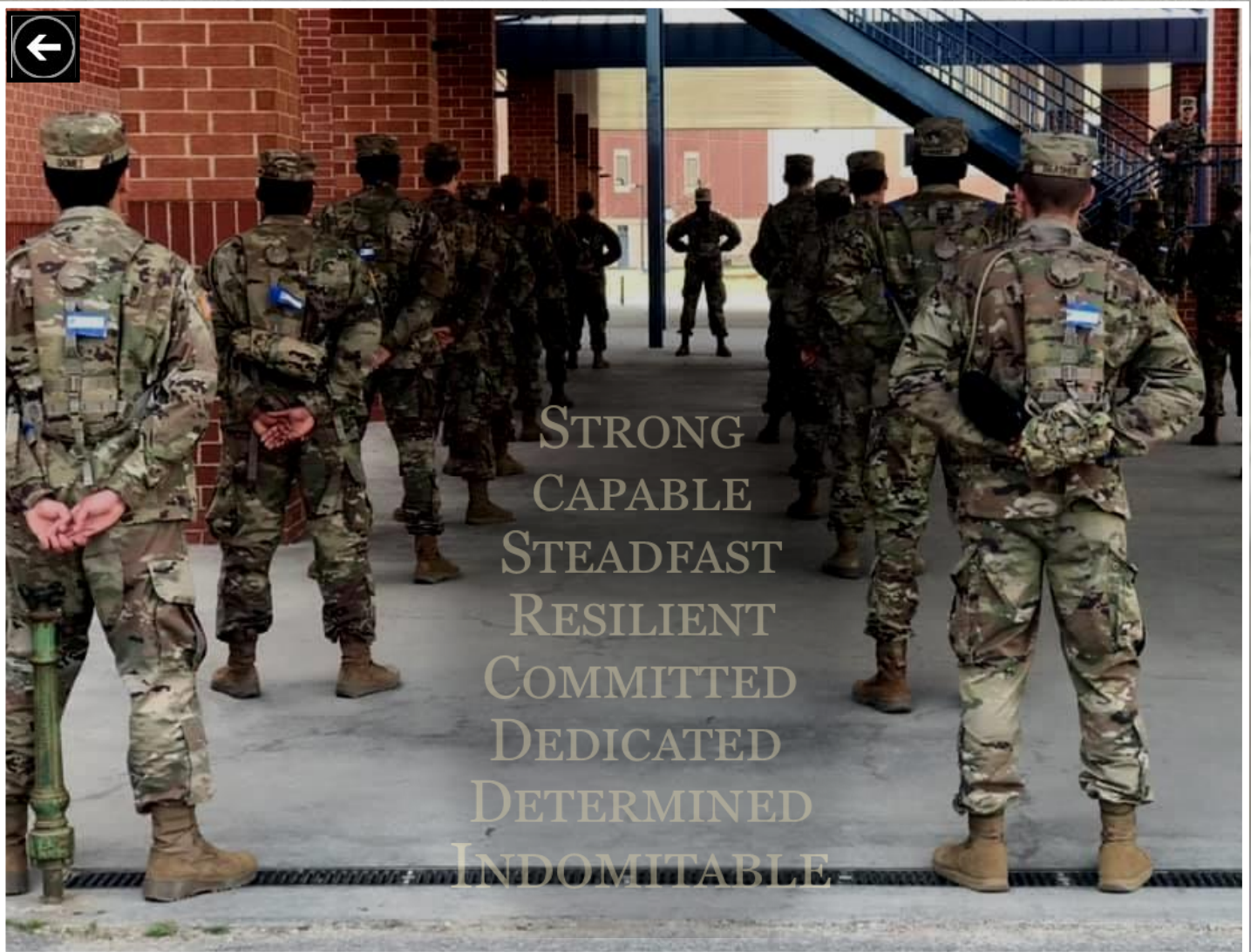
During WWII, equipment maintenance proved to be another challenge for the Ordnance Department and the Army overall. Preventive maintenance was critical for keeping equipment operational, but at the outset of the war, operators and units did not do enough of it. To solve this problem, the Ordnance Department established a system of scheduled services for vehicles and equipment that was institutionalized through command programs and leadership. Additionally, equipment operators and unit mechanics learned the importance of performing daily checks and operating equipment properly. As a result, the U.S. Army had considerably higher operational readiness rates than the German Army during the war effort. To reinforce the importance of vehicle readiness, *Army Motors* magazine provided tips on proper equipment operation. The publication ceased in September 1945, began again as the *PS Magazine* in June 1951, and continues today in a [digital format](#). The Army's current system of Preventive Maintenance Checks and Services (PMCS) is the direct descendent of these WWII measures.

As the U.S. Army commemorates the 75th anniversary of the end of WWII, the U.S. Army Ordnance Corps recognizes the 350,000 Ordnance Soldiers (men and women) whose maintenance and EOD expertise contributed significantly to the success of the Allied forces.

Mr. Karl Rubis  
Command Historian

CELEBRATING

# The Spirit of the Ordnance Professional



# Happy Birthday, Ordnance!

208 YEARS OF SERVICE  
TO THE LINE, ON THE LINE, ON TIME!